

Refugio Groundwater Conservation District Meeting Notice and Agenda

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Government Code and Section 36.064 of the Texas Water Code that the Refugio Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors will hold a meeting on September 8, 2026, at 6:00 PM at First Baptist Church of Woodsboro Fellowship Hall, 309 Johnson Street, Woodsboro, Texas.

AGENDA

1. Convene the meeting and receive a report from the general manager.
2. Receive public comments.
3. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater management, including the efforts and activities of the District regarding permitting, complaints, investigations, violations, and enforcement cases associated with permitting.
4. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater protection, including complaints, investigations, violations, and enforcement cases related to groundwater contamination and waste.
5. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater monitoring.
6. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater conservation.
7. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater resource planning, including Joint Planning of Groundwater Management Area 15, regional water planning, and proposed Desired Future Conditions (DFCs).
8. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater policy, including the Management Plan of the District, the Rules of the District, and the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District.
9. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to administration and management including minutes of previous meetings, amendments to the annual budget, the tax rates, certified tax roll, bank accounts, investments, financial reports of the district, bills and invoices of the district, general elections, management goals and objectives of the district, administrative policies, staffing, consultant agreements, interlocal cooperation agreements, the annual report of the District, and support services provided to and received from other groundwater conservation districts.
 - a. Budget for Fiscal Year 2027;
 - b. Public hearing regarding the Proposed Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026;
 - c. Certified tax roll for Tax Year 2026; and
 - d. November 2026 General Elections.
10. Adjourn.

The Refugio Groundwater Conservation District may close the meeting, if necessary, to conduct private consultation with legal counsel regarding matters protected by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Government Code or to discuss matters regarding personnel pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Government Code. The Refugio Groundwater Conservation District will return to open meeting, if necessary, to take any action deemed necessary based on discussion in closed meeting pursuant to Section 551.102 of the Government Code.

In accordance with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, we invite all attendees to advise us of any special accommodations due to disability. Please submit your request as far as possible in advance of event you wish to attend.

Item 1 - Convene Meeting

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Topic 1.1 - Roll Call

Management Discussion:

Staff completed the necessary public notification requirements for the meeting.

 1.1.1 RGCD - Meeting Notice - 202600908 - Final.pdf 87 kB

 1.1.2 RGCD - Small Taxing Unit Notice - TY2026.pdf 99 kB

Management Recommendation:

Call the meeting to order and call the roll of representatives:

_____ : Precinct 1 Director: Mr. John Snyder, Vice President.
_____ : Precinct 2 Director: Mr. Carroll Borden, President.
_____ : Precinct 3 Director: Ms. Cynthia Rose, Treasurer.
_____ : Precinct 4 Director: Mr. Fredric Biery, Secretary.
_____ : At Large Director: Ms. Stephanie Blaschke.
_____ : General Manager: Tim Andruss.

Item 2 - Receive Public Comment

Item 9 - Administration and Management Considerations

Topic 9.1 - Budget for FY2027

Management Discussion:

On August 17, 2026, the Board authorized the publication of a proposed a tax rate not exceeding the Voter-Approval Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026 of \$0.015680/\$100 of taxable value. The Voter-Approval Tax Rate is calculated by the Tax Assessor-Collector using a complicated tax worksheet. For the District, the Voter-Approval Tax Rate is limited to an 8% increase in tax levy. However, base on the formula prescribed in code for the development of the small taxing unit notice, the notice would have indicated the proposed tax rate "would increase total taxes" by 8.137%. To avoid a potential controversy or dispute regarding the proposed tax rate, management authorized the publication of a proposed tax rate of \$0.015660/\$100 of taxable value with 8% tax rate increase calculation.

Management developed a draft budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2027, that attempts to fund the operations of the District in a manner which provides for 1) the accomplishment of the management plan goals and objectives, and 2) the completion of projects and tasks associated with the administration of the district, groundwater conservation, groundwater management and permitting, groundwater monitoring, groundwater policy development, groundwater protection, groundwater research, and groundwater resource planning.

To facilitate future comparisons of adopted budgets to financial audits and to simplify bookkeeping tasks, the draft budget has developed using a single fund referred to as the General Fund instead of developing a budget using two funds, Operating Fund and Reserve Fund.

The draft budget anticipates purchases and projects that are not routine in nature including funding for increased legal expenses, increased district fees, expanded water level assessment, increased legislative support expenditures, site-specific monitoring and assessments, CGCBGF Model improvements, expanded DFC modeling.

For the purposes of budgeting revenue, the draft budget anticipates the collection of \$222,200 in tax revenue based on the computed tax levy for the proposed tax rate for Tax Year 2026 of \$0.015660/\$100 of taxable value.

 9.1.2 RGCD - FY2027 - Project Budget Estimates - REV 20260901.pdf 366 kB

 9.1.3 RGCD - Order Adopting Budget.pdf 100 kB

Management Recommendation:

Move to adopt the budget for Fiscal Year 2027 by order, as drafted.

Topic 9.2 - Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026

Management Discussion:

On August 23, 2026, the public notice requirements were completed for the proposed tax rate for Tax Year 2026.

 9.2.1 RGCD - Small Taxing Unit Notice - TY2026.pdf 99 kB

 9.2.2 RGCD - Victoria Advocate - Affidavit - Small Taxing Unit Notice - 20260908.pdf 501 kB

 9.2.3 RGCD - Order Adopting Tax Rate.pdf 243 kB

Management Recommendation:

Management Recommendation 1: open the public hearing regarding the proposed tax rate.

Management Recommendation 2: move to close the public hearing after accepting public comment regarding the proposed tax rate.

Management Recommendation 3: move to approve and adopt a tax rate equal to or less than \$0.015660/\$100 of taxable value as the adopted tax rate by order.

Topic 9.3 - Appraisal Roll for Tax Year 2025

Management Discussion:

On July 24, 2026, the Chief Appraiser of the Refugio Central Appraisal District submitted the certified 2026 Appraisal Roll to the District.

 9.3.1 RGCD - RCTAC - 2026 Appraisal Roll - Signed.pdf 212 kB

 9.3.2 RGCD - Order Approving Appraisal Roll.pdf 205 kB

Management Recommendation:

Move to accept the appraisal roll for Tax Year 2026 and adopt the Order Approving the 2026 Appraisal Roll.

Topic 9.4 - November 2026 General Elections

Management Discussion:

The terms of the following offices are scheduled to expire in 2026: Director, Precinct 1; (currently held by Mr. John Snyder); Director, Precinct 3; (currently held by Ms. Cynthia A. Rose).

The district received applications for a place on the ballot from Mr. Snyder and Ms. Rose by 5:00 PM on August 17, 2026.

 9.4.1 RGCD - 2026 Ballot Application - C. Rose - Final.pdf 120 kB

 9.4.2 RGCD - 2026 Ballot Application - J. Snyder - Final.pdf 148 kB

The District did not receive any write-in applications by 5:00 PM on August 21, 2026.

As a result of receiving only one application for a place on the ballot for each office up for election, its appropriate for the Board to cancel the election for November 2026 by order after the certification of unopposed candidates are executed by the Mr. Biery, Board Secretary.

 9.4.3 RGCD - Elections - Certification of Unopposed Candidates - Form 13-1.pdf 240 kB

 9.4.4 RGCD - Elections - Order of Cancellation - Form 13-2 20260824.pdf 693 kB

Management Recommendation:

Move to cancel the election for all positions by order.

Topic 9.5 - Annual Report

Management Discussion:

On August 12, 2026, management compiled the annual performance report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025. Based on the review of the activities and projects of the Refugio Groundwater Conservation between October 1, 2024, and September 30, 2025, and an assessment of the performance standards, management has determined that, of the Goals and objectives established within the Management Plan of the District, 7 of the objectives have been fully achieved and 1 objective has been partially achieved during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025.

On September 2, 2026, management revised the Annual Report for FY2025 to include additional information regarding the aquifer monitoring measurements collected during Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025 under Management Goal 4 and Management Goal 7.

 9.5.1 RGCD - Annual Report for FY2025 - Revised 20260902.pdf 13 MB

Management Recommendation:

Move to accept and approve the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025, as revised.

Topic 9.6 - Review of Consultants

Management Discussion:

The district has obtain services from Allison, Bass and Magee, Intera, Inc., WSP USA, Inc., Daniel B. Stephens and Associates, Inc., and Collier Consulting, Inc., in the past under approved agreements. The deliverables submitted through the services provided by each consultant have been accepted by the district.

Management Recommendation:

None.

Topic 9.7 - Investment Report

Management Discussion:

The investment reports for June, and July 2026 have been developed by Lisa Ramirez, Administrator Coordinator, and reviewed and approved by Caitlynn Davenport, Investment Officer of the District, and were sent to the directors prior to the meeting.

 9.7.1 RGCD - Investment Report - IR-20260630-01 - FY2026M09 - Final.pdf 147 kB

 9.7.2 RGCD - Investment Report - IR-20260731-01 - FY2026M10 - Final.pdf 147 kB

The balance of all funds of the district as of July 31, 2026, was \$1,562,891.44.

Management Recommendation:

Move to accept the investment reports for June and July 2026.

Topic 9.8 - Unpaid Invoices and Bills

Management Discussion:

The District has outstanding bills and invoices that are NOT considered regular and routine nor has the Board previously authorized the requested payment.

1. [ACCTP-2026098-01 - \\$204.15 - VicAdvocate - Proposed 2026 Tax Notice](#)
2. [ACCTP-20260908-01 - \\$250.00 - C. Borden - September Board Meeting](#)
3. [ACCTP-20260908-02 - \\$250.00 - J. Snyder - September Board Meeting](#)
4. [ACCTP-20260908-03 - \\$250.00 - F. Biery - September Board Meeting](#)
5. [ACCTP-20260908-04 - \\$250.00 - C. Rose - September Board Meeting](#)
6. [ACCTP-20260908-05 - \\$250.00 - S. Blaschke - September Board Meeting](#)

Management Recommendation:

Move to authorize the general manager to pay the following items:

1. [ACCTP-2026098-01 - \\$204.15 - VicAdvocate - Proposed 2026 Tax Notice](#)
2. [ACCTP-20260908-01 - \\$250.00 - C. Borden - September Board Meeting](#)
3. [ACCTP-20260908-02 - \\$250.00 - J. Snyder - September Board Meeting](#)
4. [ACCTP-20260908-03 - \\$250.00 - F. Biery - September Board Meeting](#)
5. [ACCTP-20260908-04 - \\$250.00 - C. Rose - September Board Meeting](#)
6. [ACCTP-20260908-05 - \\$250.00 - S. Blaschke - September Board Meeting](#)

Item 10 - Legal Counsel Report

Item 11 - Adjourn Meeting

Management Recommendation:

Move to adjourn the meeting after concluding all business of the District.